

The background of the slide features the national flag of Azerbaijan on the left and the United Nations logo on the right. The Azerbaijani flag consists of three horizontal stripes of blue, green, and red, with a white crescent and an eight-pointed star in the center. The UN logo is a white map of the world surrounded by a laurel wreath, set against a blue background.

AZERBAIJAN – 2030: TRANSITION FROM MDGs TO THE SDGs

The First Voluntary National Review
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Sustainable Development**

Progress and Accomplishments

Azerbaijan joined the **Millennium Declaration** in 2000. To accelerate progress towards the MDGs, a number of the state programmes, which were addressing a wide range of economic and social development issues, was endorsed and successfully executed. Specifically,

- ❖ *The State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Economic Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2003-2005 (SPPRED)*
- ❖ *The State Programme on Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2008-2015 (SPPRSD)*

*Absolute poverty rate dropped from **49.0%** to **4.9%**;*

*Share of the poorest quintile in consumption rose from **12.2%** to **15.4%**;*

*Share of underweight children under 5 years of age dropped from **6.8%** to **0.6%**.*

*Literacy rate of 15-24 year olds rose to **100%**;*

*Net enrollment rate in primary education rose to **99.8%**;*

*Primary completion rate increased from **92.8%** to **100%**.*

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MDGs

*Unemployment rate among women dropped from **12.7%** to **5.9%**;*

*Gender Parity Index was **0.99** in primary education, **0.99** in secondary education and **1.07** in tertiary education;*

*Proportion of seats held by women in the Parliament rose from **10.7%** to **16.8%**.*

*Under-five mortality rate per 1,000 live births dropped from **30.5** to **13.3**;*

*Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births dropped from **16.4** to **11.0**;*

*Measles immunization rate among 1-year olds equaled **98.1%**.*



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*Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) dropped from **37.6** to **14.4**;*

*Share of births attended by skilled medical staff rose from **92.1%** to **99.8%**.*

*Incidence of malaria per 100,000 population dropped from **19.4** to **0**;*

*Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population) dropped from **178.6** to **101.1**, new cases of tuberculosis dropped from **64.3** to **41.9** and death rate from tuberculosis dropped from **14.9** to **5.1**.*

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MDGs

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*Proportion of the population with access to drinking water sources reached **89.2%** in 2015;*

*Percentage of the population with access to sanitation rose to **94.3%** in 2015.*

*Number of Internet users per 100 population rose from **8** to **77**;*

*Youth unemployment rate (15-24 years olds) dropped from **22.0%** to **13.4%**. The rate decreased among female youths from **25.4%** to **15.8%**.*



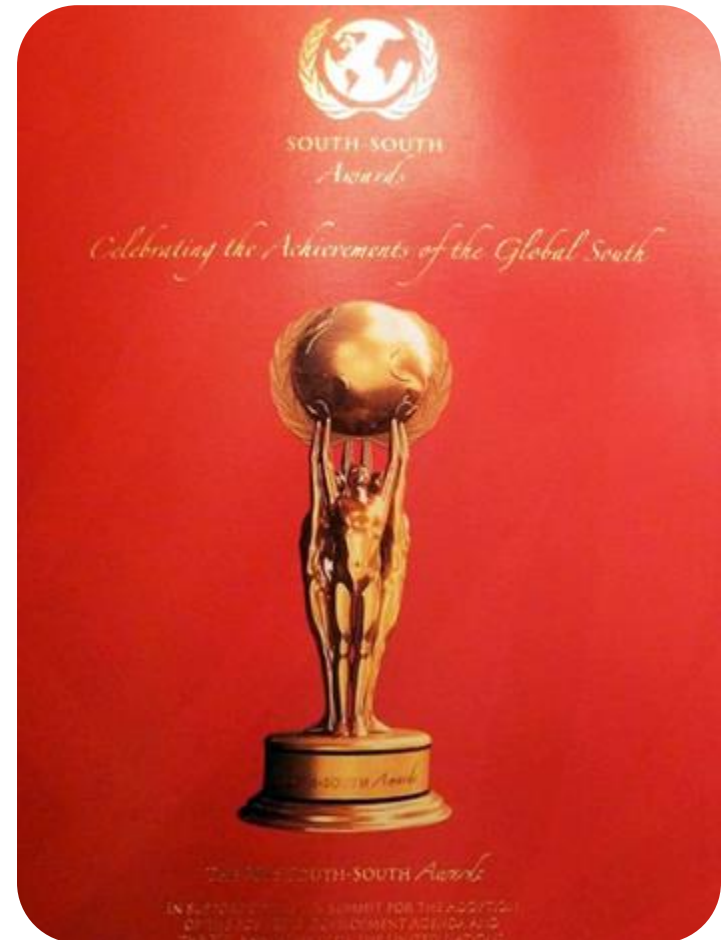
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Progress and Accomplishments

In recognition of its outstanding achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, Azerbaijan received the *2015 South-South Award*



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- ❖ In 2009, Azerbaijan was assessed as a “leading reformer of the world” by the World Bank’s annual Doing Business Report.
- ❖ According to the World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Report for 2016-2017, Azerbaijan ranked 27th among 138 countries, making a dramatic leap upward from 37th in 2006. In compliance with this report, Azerbaijan is 39th in the world for the quality indicators of macroeconomic environment, 26th - for labour market efficiency, and 55th - for infrastructure quality.
- ❖ Since 2010, Azerbaijan has been categorized under the high human development group (2015 HDI is above the average of 0.759 for countries in Europe and Central Asia).

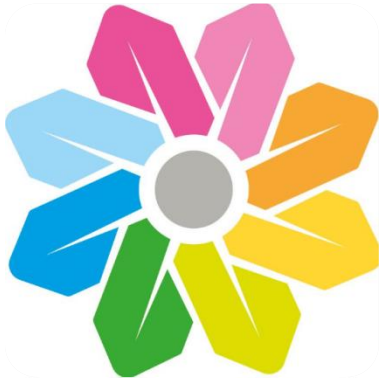


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- ❖ The economic and administrative reform measures entail launching a number of innovative projects. One of them is ASAN Service, which was created as a one-stop shop model to significantly foster and simplify several public services for population. ASAN in Azerbaijani means easy, rapid.
- ❖ Currently, a substantial part of the population is receiving a range of services at ASAN. In 2015, it received the UN Public Service Award in recognition of its contributions to excellence, creativity and considerable simplification of the delivery of public services. This model presently is being examined for replication in a number of countries.



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Sustainable Development as a Cornerstone of Azerbaijan's National Development Agenda (state programmes under the implementation)

- ❖ *The State Strategy on the Development of Education in the Republic of Azerbaijan*
- ❖ *A National Programme of the Republic of Azerbaijan on Women's Issues*
- ❖ *The State Programme on the Improvement of Maternal and Child Health for 2014-2020*



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Sustainable Development as a Cornerstone of Azerbaijan's National Development Agenda (draft programmes)

- ❖ *The Employment Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2017-2030*
- ❖ *The State Programme in the Population Occupancy and Demographic Development in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2017-2030*
- ❖ *The State Programme on Environmental Improvement and Efficient Use of Natural Resources in the Republic of Azerbaijan*
- ❖ *The State Programme on Azerbaijani Youth Development for 2017-2021*



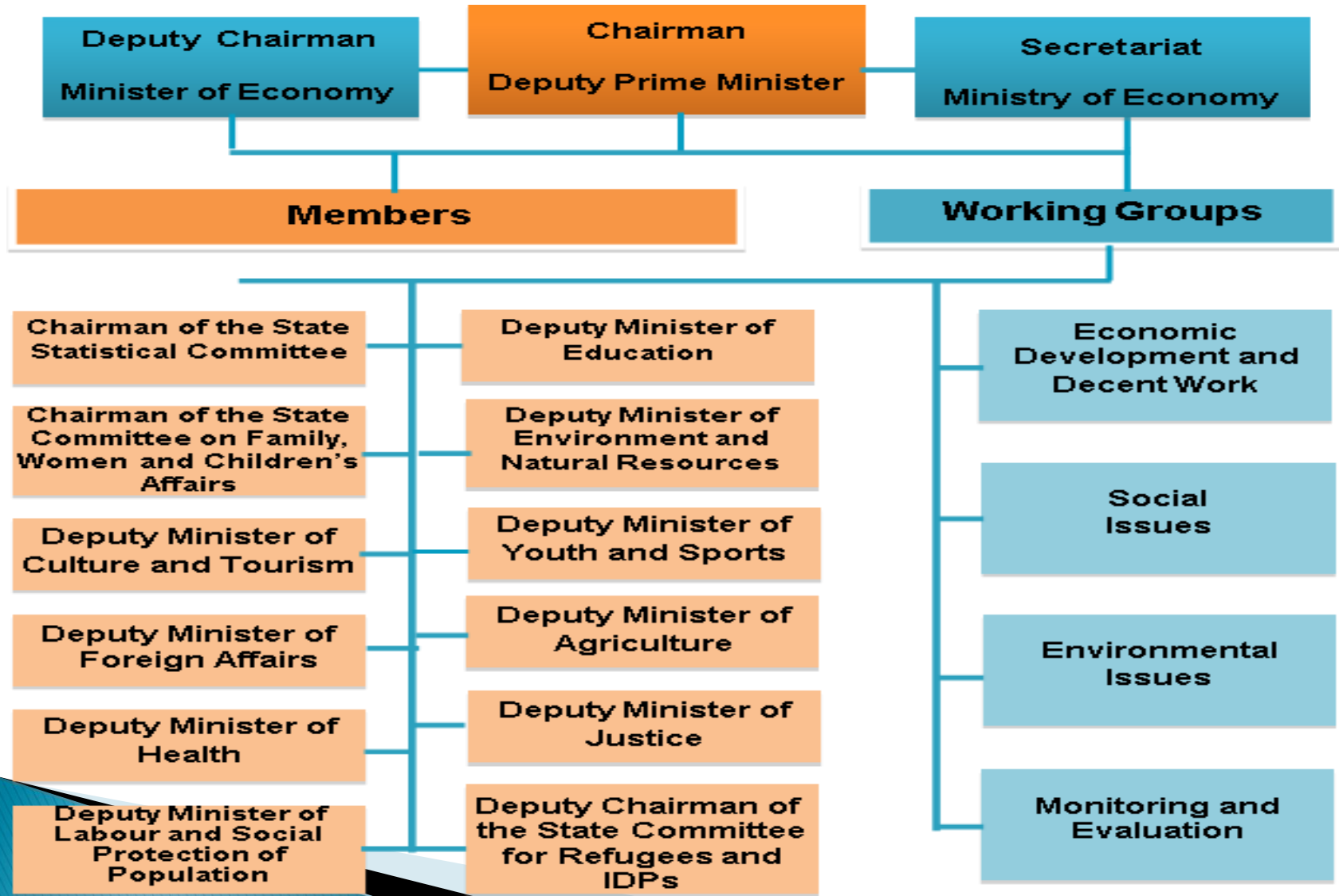
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Institutional Structure

National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan



Aligning SDGs to National Priorities

- ❖ With support from UN experts in applying a Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) tool for a gap analysis to determine the relevance of the SDGs, a mapping of national strategies and the relevant sector plans against the SDG targets was executed to set national priorities and corresponding indicators;
- ❖ Efforts are underway to draft national priorities for sustainable development of Azerbaijan and their corresponding indicators, as well as to mainstream the SDGs into national policies and strategies to foster socio-economic development in the country;
- ❖ Intensive measures are underway, in cooperation with the respective UN experts, to integrate the SDG targets into national sustainable development priorities.



Raising Awareness and Engaging Key Stakeholders

Panel Discussion on the **Role of Science and Research in Achieving the SDGs in Azerbaijan**



An Open Lesson entitled “**The Sustainable Development Goals: Education Can Change the World**” hosted by one of the UNESCO Associated Schools in Azerbaijan

Raising Awareness and Engaging Key Stakeholders

Panel Discussion on the **Role of Civil Society in Achieving the SDGs in Azerbaijan**



Panel Discussion entitled
“The SDGs: Women and Development”

Raising Awareness and Engaging Key Stakeholders

The Government of Azerbaijan, in partnership with the UN Office in Azerbaijan, developed Advocacy Campaign Strategy on the SDGs for 2017-2018, which is guided by the principle of leaving no one behind.



Youth



Private sector



Regions

Azerbaijan's First Voluntary National Review

By 2020, our Government is determined to accomplish the following:

**1 NO
POVERTY**



**Reduce poverty by 1%
by:**

- creating additional jobs;
- increasing the minimum salaries and pensions;
- improve the social protection system

**2 ZERO
HUNGER**



**Significantly improve
quality of life and ration
of the vulnerable strata
of the population based
on:**

- a targeted social assistance for the most vulnerable families;
- improving food security in the country;

**3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING**



**Improve quality of the
healthcare system
through:**

- boosting state funding for the healthcare;
- transition to mandatory medical insurance

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5 GENDER
EQUALITY



Advance gender equality by encouraging women's active participation in:

- economy;
- political life;
- CSOs

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Develop new sectors of industrial manufacturing underpinned by diversified economy and initiating new infrastructural projects;

14 LIFE BELOW
WATER



Further improve drinking water quality by:

- effective water resources management
- substantial increase in portable water production

Azerbaijan's First Voluntary National Review



Detailed information has been presented in the Voluntary National Review, in line with a thematic plan on the SDGs



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Challenges to achieving the SDGs

“There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development”,

- *As a result of Ongoing occupation of the Nagorno-Karabakh region and seven adjacent districts of Azerbaijan more than 1 million people became refugees and IDPs.*
- *Social problems and needs of this most vulnerable category remain the main burden for the national budget. In the past 21 years, \$6.2 billion has been spent to mitigate their social needs.*
- *Preliminary calculations show that the total economic damage of the Armenian military aggression against Azerbaijan estimated around hundreds of billions of US dollars.*



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Challenges to achieving the SDGs

- There is a need for obtaining more detailed statistical information and strengthening analytical capacity, particularly by disaggregating data on gender, age groups, urban/rural dimensions, sectors, and regions/administrative districts;
- Lack of data on some indicators and the relevant methodologies;
- There is a need to strengthen efforts to foster diversification, enhance export capacity and expand export, increase effectiveness of healthcare and upgrade social services, as well as improve environmental security.



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Next Steps

- ❖ Raising public awareness of the SDGs country-wide and create a conducive environment for their achievement, within the Advocacy Campaign Strategy on the SDGs for 2017-2018 which is guided by the principle of leaving no one behind and by engaging all concerned stakeholders;
- ❖ Boosting efforts for integrating the global SDGs, targets and indicators into the national development agenda;
- ❖ Finalizing the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation system on the SDGs, at both central and local levels, to monitor the progress made in their achievement;
- ❖ Exploring opportunities to generate reliable and disaggregated statistics, particularly on gender, age groups, urban/rural dimensions, sectors, and regions/administrative districts;
- ❖ Building statistical capacity for the SDGs within a joint initiative of the UN and the State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan on establishing a database for the SDGs;
- ❖ Strengthening international partnerships for achieving the SDGs.



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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